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# City of SeaTac Police Department

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## Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004 Annual Report on Police Performance



Created for the City of SeaTac by:

The King County Sheriff's Office  
Research, Planning & Information Services Unit  
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Seattle, WA 98104

**Accessible formats are available upon request.**

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## Letter from Chief Greg Dymerski



June, 2005

Dear citizens, businesses and visitors of SeaTac,

This Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report (SEA) is designed to explain how we provide law enforcement service to our community. I am honored to present our report on behalf of the outstanding men and women of SeaTac Police Services. This information explains the details of arrests, crime, and our goals to help improve the quality of life in SeaTac. If you are interested in helping us in our community

policing efforts, please visit the City of SeaTac web site for more information:

[www.ci.seatac.wa.us/departments/policehomepage.htm](http://www.ci.seatac.wa.us/departments/policehomepage.htm)

SeaTac Police Services' goals are to: Reduce crime and the fear of crime, provide responsive and cost effective services, be prepared to manage critical incidents, and improve traffic safety. We use proven strategies to help us achieve our goals.

### ***Reducing crime and the fear of crime***

Our priority is to do all we can to prevent the next crime from occurring. We rely on community education and collaboration to help us achieve this goal. Programs such as Neighborhood Crime Watch, Crime Free Multi-Unit Housing, and Citizens Academies are examples of community policing that utilize the three "P's" of Prevention, Partnerships, and Problem-Solving. Our dedicated Crime Prevention Officer works with staff, citizens and businesses to make SeaTac a safe place to conduct business and enjoy life.

We do everything within our power to hold criminals accountable. Officers use their time to target repeat offenders and career criminals who disproportionately victimize our community. Our staff uses crime analysis and technology to improve our ability to identify, monitor, apprehend and prosecute repeat offenders. At the same time that we hold offenders accountable, we foster a sense of security in the community. We use a team approach with other city departments to encourage neighborhood empowerment and access to our services. In 2005 we are focusing on reducing auto theft and related crime.

### ***Being Responsive and Cost-Effective***

We understand that tax dollars support our operations and we make every effort to be good stewards of your trust. We benchmark our response times and actively measure our performance to ensure we are accountable. Staff is called on to quickly identify problems and solve those problems in the team atmosphere. Graduates from our Citizens Academy and others have joined us to improve communication with and responsiveness to crime victims. Detectives provide timely response to victims of crime and look to improve accountability within the criminal justice arena. We continually measure performance towards achieving outcomes that make a difference. The Police web site contains a wealth of information that is continually updated.

### ***Managing Critical Incidents***

SeaTac continues to be a leader in critical incident response. We work with neighboring agencies, and the Federal government in the unlikely event that we must respond to a critical incident. Our officers, supervisors and command staff have all been trained in the National Incident Management System and Terrorist response and containment. Staff is involved in

working in Demonstration Management, and Active Shooter response plans. We work with the Fire Department to train Citizen Emergency Response Teams to assist our services when in need.

### ***Improving Traffic Safety***

SeaTac Police have worked hard to reduce deaths, injuries and property damage associated with traffic accidents. We study where, when and how accidents occur with other city departments and are working to reduce accidents through a variety of education, enforcement and engineering efforts. Our dedicated DUI officer has earned accolades for noted increases in DUI enforcement and related education efforts.

### ***Conclusion***

This report clearly shows some good news regarding crime and disorder in SeaTac. Since 1997 our crime rate has dropped from 92.3 to 74.2 per 1000 residents. In 2004 we continued to reduce burglary, arson, and collisions. Driving while intoxicated arrests increased 60% to 186 in 2004. Domestic violence crime decreased 9.2% after an increase in 2003. Our officers made more arrests and held criminals accountable. Response times improved in all areas. SeaTac did see increases in auto theft and auto related larcenies in 2004. As a result, an additional police goal for 2005 is a reduction in auto theft/larceny crime. We urge you to continue to educate yourselves and become involved in your neighborhoods to insure a safe, quality place in which to live, raise families, worship, conduct business, attend school and visit.

Contact information:

Crime Prevention Officer Reynolds, (206) 973-4904  
Community Service Officers Kruger, (206) 973-4915 Gilleland (206) 973-4917  
Administrative staff including Chief Dymerski and Captain Louie, (206) 973-4900

Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Sincerely,

Greg Dymerski  
Chief of Police

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Executive Summary

#### Mission

The mission of the SeaTac Police Department is to:

**Enhance the quality of life in SeaTac by working together with the community to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and by maintaining a safe and wholesome community for its citizens and numerous guests. This is achievable with the support of the City Council, City Manager, and by working in cooperation with the citizens of SeaTac and the City's other municipal departments.**

#### Goals & Objectives

In order to realize their mission, the SeaTac Police Department has adopted the following goals and objectives:

Goal: Reduce crime and the fear of crime.

- Objective: Use information for crime analysis.
- Objective: Apprehend offenders.
- Objective: Prevent crime.
- Objective: Improve citizens' feeling of security.

Goal: Provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services to the City of SeaTac, WA.

- Objective: Provide responsive services to citizens.
- Objective: Provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The following report contains information on the service efforts and accomplishments of the City of SeaTac Police Department to support its Mission, Goals and Objectives.

#### Report Highlights

As stated in Chief Dymerski's letter (pages 2-3), the highlights of the year 2004 were:

- Crime Prevention Efforts (page 14)
- Community Communication and Education Efforts (page 18)
- Reductions in a several categories of crimes (pages 6-9)
- Vehicle and traffic related enforcement efforts (pages 10-12)

## **Goal: Reduce Crime and the Fear of Crime**

The goal to reduce crime and the fear of crime is a standard goal of law enforcement agencies worldwide. Efforts to support this goal vary with variations in laws, limitations and liabilities of law enforcement agencies, community preferences, socio-economic factors and available resources.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for SeaTac's police department to support this goal are:

- use information for crime analysis,
- apprehend offenders,
- prevent crime, and
- improve citizens' feeling of security.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of SeaTac's police department as reflected in the amount of crime (crime rates and statistics), crime incident case clearance rates, adult and juvenile arrest and charge statistics, workload of crime prevention efforts and citizen communications activities.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Objective: Use Information for Crime Analysis

#### The "Crime Rate"

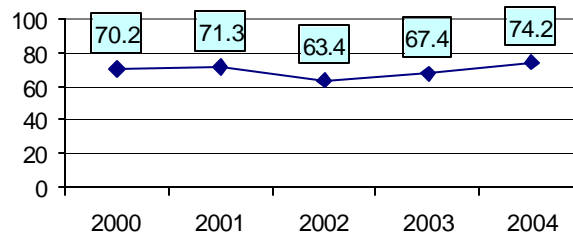
##### Total Part I Crimes

"Part I Crimes" is a category of crimes established by the U. S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that consists of murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle and arson. Part I Crimes compared to the population are known as the "Crime Index" or "Crime Rate." (The Crime Rate is known as the Modified Crime Rate when Arson data is included.)

"Part II Crimes" consist of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws.

##### **Part I Crimes Per 1,000 Residents**

Commonly known as the "Modified Crime Rate"



##### National Modified Crime Rate

The FBI calculates and publishes the national crime rate based on the information sent to them by participating agencies. This information is usually released in the fourth quarter of the following year. Therefore, the most recent data available as of this report is the crime rate for 2003 (published in October, 2004).

##### **U. S. National Modified Crime Rate (2003)**

**40.9**

# City of SeaTac Police

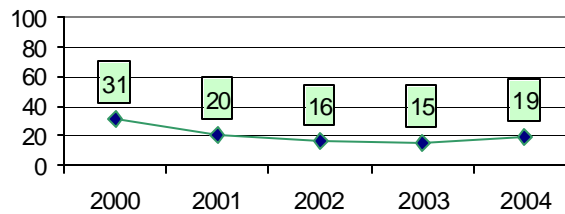
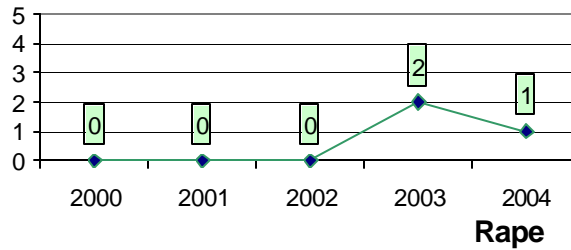
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Crimes Against Persons

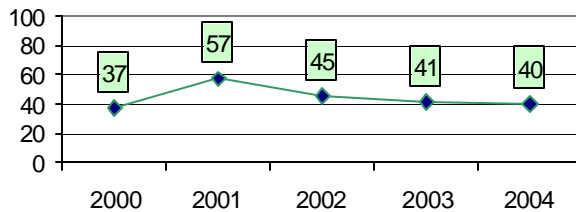
#### Part I Crimes Against Persons

Part I Crimes include crimes categorized as “violent crimes” or “crimes against persons.” The following are SeaTac's Part I Crimes Against Persons for the past five years.

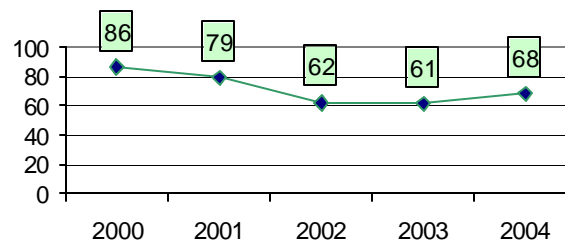
#### **Murder**



#### **Robbery**



#### **Aggravated Assault**





# City of SeaTac Police

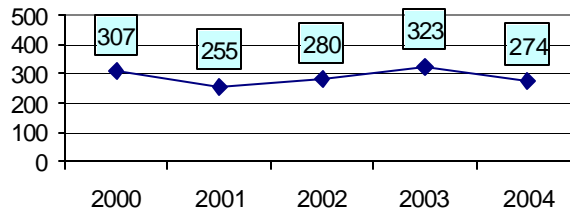
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Crimes Against Property

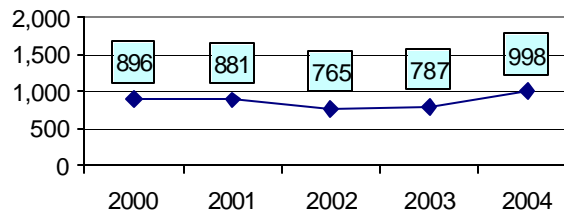
#### Part I Crimes Against Property

The second group of crimes that make up the Part I Crimes are known as “non-violent crimes” or “crimes against property” or “property crimes.” The following are SeaTac's Part I Crimes Against Property for the last five years.

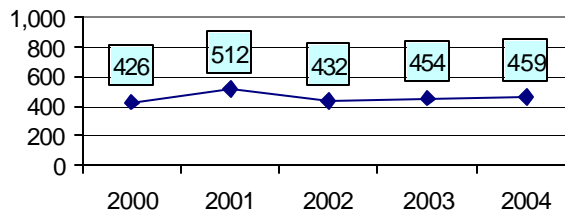
#### **Burglary**



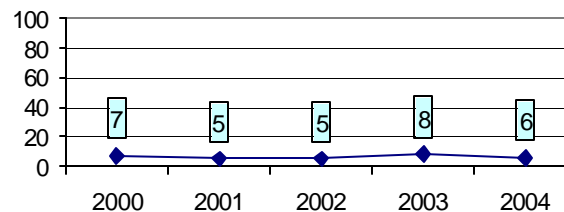
#### **Larceny**



#### **Vehicle Theft**



#### **Arson**



# City of SeaTac Police

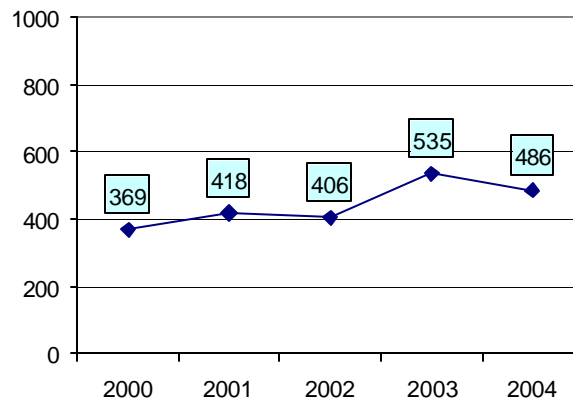
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Domestic Violence Crimes

In Washington State "Domestic Violence Crime" refers to any crime which is committed by a spouse, former spouse, person related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and/or persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

"Domestic Violence Incidents" includes all documented police activity related to domestic violence incidents which includes all case reports and citations as well as possibly containing other related activity such as Field Interview Reports (FIR) and assistance to other agencies.

#### Total Domestic Violence Incidents



The most frequently occurring types of domestic violence crimes in SeaTac in 2004 were:

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Reported Incidents</u>
Assault, Fourth Degree	171
Violation of Court Orders, Misdemeanor	74
Vandalism	31
Total Family/Juvenile	16
Assault, Hands	10
Violation of Court Orders, Felony	11
Assault, Knife	7
Assault, Other Deadly Weapon	7
Kidnapping	5
Larceny, +\$250	5
Other/Miscellaneous	51

NOTE: There were no domestic violence related homicides in SeaTac in 2004.

# City of SeaTac Police

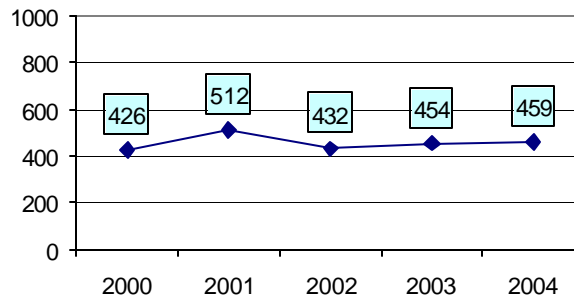
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Automobile/Vehicle Related Crimes

#### Vehicle Thefts

Vehicle Thefts includes thefts of all vehicles including trucks, buses, boats, recreational vehicles and other non-licensed off-road vehicles.

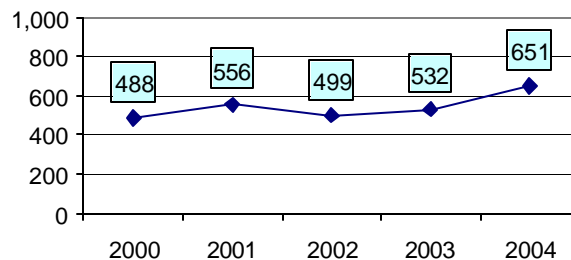
**Vehicle Theft**



#### Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts

Thefts From Vehicles and Attempted Thefts includes thefts of property **from** a vehicle including: any part or accessory item attached to the vehicle (gasoline, tires, tape decks, antennas, etc.), and personal property left in a vehicle (purses, gifts, tools), as well as vehicle prowls (no property successfully taken).

**Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts ("Prowls")**



# City of SeaTac Police

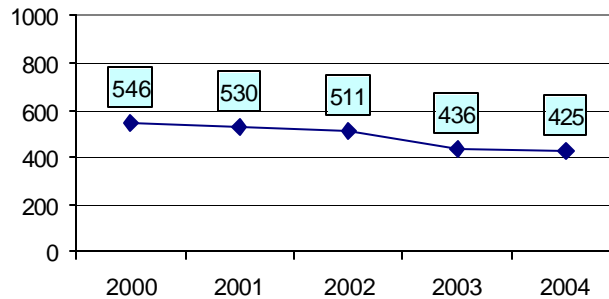
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Traffic Incident Information

#### Traffic Report Data

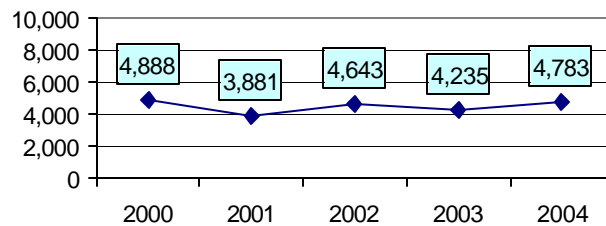
Collision information includes reports for all injury, non-injury and fatality vehicle collisions (including hit and run incidents) taken by the City of SeaTac Police Department.

#### **Collisions**



Citation and Notice of Infraction information includes reports of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) violations, Moving/Hazardous violations (such as all accidents, speeding and reckless driving), and Non-moving Compliance violations (such as defective equipment and parking violations).

#### **Traffic Citations and Notices of Infraction(s)**



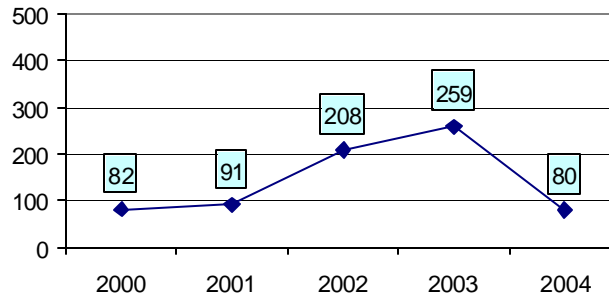
# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### **Traffic Report Data, continued**

Citizen Traffic Complaints includes all reports citizens make regarding chronic traffic violations and requests for traffic enforcement. These complaints are then distributed to SeaTac's police officers to provide follow-up enforcement and/or a problem solving response (see Problem Solving Projects on pages 15-17).

### **Citizen Traffic Complaints**



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

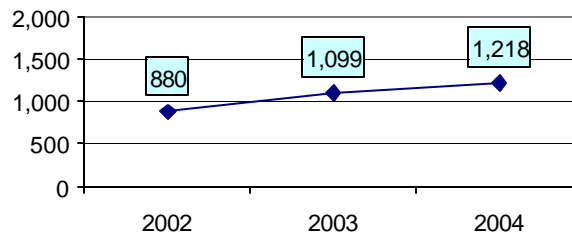
### Objective: Apprehend Offenders

#### Cases Closed "Cleared by Arrest"

The closed cases below are cases known as "cleared by arrest." Although not every case suspect is "arrested," each suspect in these cases has been recommended for criminal charges that may eventually result in an arrest or another form of punitive action (such as a citation). Cases "cleared by arrest" are sent to the King County Prosecutor's office - with the officer or detective's recommendation to file criminal charges. A prosecuting attorney is solely responsible for the decision to formally file charges and prosecute defendants.

#### Part I & II Cases Closed 'Cleared By Arrest'

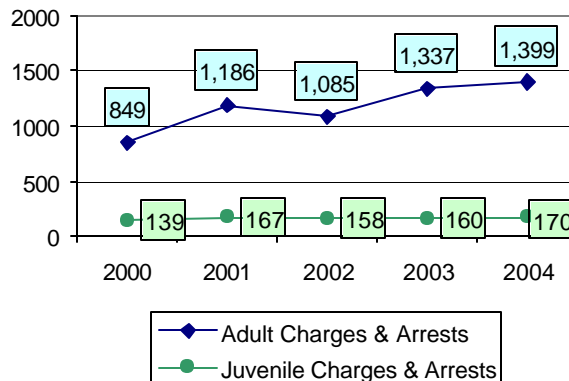
Comparable data unavailable prior to 2002



#### Charges and Arrests

Of all the cases "cleared by arrest" (see above), the following are the charges & arrests by adult/juvenile status. (Note: Numbers will differ from the number of cases "cleared by arrest" due to differences in reporting standards.)

#### Adult & Juvenile Charges & Arrests



## **Objective: Prevent Crime**

### **Crime Prevention Efforts**

#### **Neighborhood Block Watch**

The City of SeaTac has over fifty Neighborhood Block Watch groups representing over 1,000 homes. Joining a Neighborhood Block Watch is one of the most effective and least costly ways residents can prevent crime and reduce fear in their neighborhoods. Members learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other, and report suspicious activity to 9-1-1.

#### **Crime Free Multi-Housing**

Citizens residing in apartment or multi-unit housing community's benefit from programs such as Crime Free Multi Housing. Through education efforts, the Crime Prevention Officer can teach management to take a leadership role in reducing crime. Managers learn about ways that residents can work with each other to reduce crime opportunities.

#### **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**

SeaTac Police staff works with other city departments to help reduce crime at building sites through design, the use of appropriate lighting, and the use of natural surveillance. SeaTac Police staff regularly attend the city Development Review Committee meetings to help assist builders with the planning process, as CPTED has been added to the building code in SeaTac.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Problem Solving Projects/Programs

#### Crime Triangle

As responsible leaders and stewards, we are called to examine crime and disorder strategically. Strategic analysis and planning focuses on long term results. The elements that create crime and disorder are illustrated in the diagram below known as the "crime triangle":



All three elements (suspect(s), victim(s) and location(s)) must be present for a crime/disorder to occur. Conversely, if any one of the elements necessary to create crime/disorder is removed, that side of the triangle "collapses" and the crime/disorder is eliminated. (For example, as in the game "Clue" if there is a criminal (suspect) in a dark alley (location) there is no crime until another person or their property (victim) is present as well.) The following problem solving strategies were used to help accomplish our goal "To reduce crime and the fear of crime."

#### **Suspect**

Our strategy is to focus our efforts on active repeat offenders, or career criminals. Our objective is to identify, track, monitor, and effectively deal with them. When they are caught committing any crime, we strive to aggressively prosecute them. Efforts to develop and deploy this strategy were led by detectives from our Street Crimes and Criminal Investigations Units. Additionally, the Sexual Offender Registration program is another tool used to monitor known offenders which is maintained by the King County Sheriff's Office's Records and Special Assault Units and the King County Regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) for the City of SeaTac Police.

#### **Victim**

Our strategy is to focus our efforts on repeat and high at risk victims. Our objective is to educate, support and empower repeat victims to break the cycle of being victimized. Currently the main categories of "pattern" victims are: domestic violence victims, visitors at hotel/motels, car rental companies, parking areas and seniors. The City of SeaTac provides excellent support services to victims of domestic violence through prosecution as well as individual and group advocacy programs. These services can be reached by calling (206) 973-4900. The SeaTac Police Services Crime Prevention Officer also offers his expertise to hotels, motels and car rental properties. Senior citizens, youth and domestic violence victims also benefit from the services of SeaTac's Community Service Officers (CSOs), E. Kruger and Gilleland. CSOs help people through crises and complicated problems, provide referrals to community support resources, free



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

police officers to handle crime, and bridge the gap between police and support agencies. You can reach CSOs Kruger and Gilleland at (206) 973-4900.

### **Location**

Our strategy is to focus our efforts on repeat call and crime locations. Our objective is to reduce or eliminate the incidence of crime and disorder effectively and efficiently. Our high repeat call and crime locations are hotel/motels, large apartment complexes and parking areas. Studies have clearly shown that random patrol of areas has little if any effect on lowering crime.

Disciplined problem solving, focused on areas with high crime density, has proven effective in reducing crime.

### General Information

Our staff focuses efforts on active repeat offenders and career criminals. We also focus on repeat locations, as we know that focusing on known problems is effective in addressing crime problems. We try to identify and then effectively deal with the people who cause most of the pain to the community. We use enforcement tools and the three "P's" (Prevention, Partnerships, and Problem-Solving.) In 2004, SeaTac officers worked on twenty-one problem-solving projects. Projects ranged from providing assistance to a senior citizen to working on a neighborhood drug house and ensuring that drug dealer was prosecuted and sent to prison. The SeaTac Traffic Unit, and Community Service Officers also work in the problem-solving mode. Traffic officers respond to neighbor complaints and track and solve the problems. Accidents continue to be reduced. DUI enforcement held 188 unsafe drivers accountable. Community Service Officers work on other service issues like holding meetings to facilitate a workable solution to a neighborhood problem. Staff documents work and uses crime analysis to best place resources during this process. Other shift officers can then best decide how they can help on their shift or workdays. Sharing information and communication between shifts and work units is vastly improved. Any of our staff can be reached through our business office, 206-973-4900.

### Accident Reduction

SeaTac Police Services working with Crime Analysis and the SeaTac Public Works Department focused enforcement efforts to locations that were shown to be high accident sites. Police also continue to respond to citizen requests for traffic safety in their neighborhoods. SeaTac's DUI officer worked at requesting State grants to provide for additional resources to attack the problem of drinking and driving. Police cannot predict how many lives were saved taking 188 DUI drivers off the streets in 2004. It is clear that traffic safety was improved. SeaTac officers continue to utilize the SMART (Speed Monitoring Awareness Rader Trailer). The SMART trailer displays a vehicle's speed and records frequency and speeds of approaching vehicles to help determine the severity of problems in a given area. SeaTac residents can request to have the trailer parked in front of their residence by calling Officer Lantor at (206) 973-4900.

### 2004 Accomplishments

- Conducted two Citizens' Academy classes that gave citizens a chance to have a first hand look at law enforcement and community policing.
- Conducted one session of Crime Free Multi-Housing (CFMH) at Highline Community College to improve property owners and managers ability to manage their properties. Conducted numerous crime prevention courses throughout the community on subjects such as Violence in the Workplace, child seatbelt use, personal safety, Neighborhood Block Watch, Project Identification, internet safety, etc.
- Supported fifty Neighborhood Watches representing approximately 1,000 households. Planned and participated in the National Night Out Against Crime in August 2004.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

- In conjunction with SeaTac's Planning Department and Building Division, took part in actively promoting Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards for new building projects.
- Updated the false alarm policy decreasing repeat false alarms problems.
- In conjunction with the fire department, conducted two Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) courses to help the community prepare for, respond to and mitigate harm from disasters and critical incidents.
- Deployed the radar trailer in response to citizen complaints. Focused radar trailer efforts on busy thoroughfares, and in neighborhoods resulting in fewer speeding complaints.
- Took an active role in decreasing domestic violence related crime by working with a Community Advocate, Victim's Advocate and prosecutors.
- Increased driving while intoxicated enforcement and awareness. Applied for and utilized grant funds to provide for greater enforcement and education.
- Worked with federal and local law enforcement agencies in cooperative drug and violent crime reduction deployments, and a youth violence symposium.
- Worked with hotels and motels to reduce larceny and theft problems

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### **Objective: Improve Citizens' Feeling of Security**

#### Public Communication and Education Efforts

##### Newsletters

Police and crime prevention information is sent to all SeaTac residents in quarterly *SeaTac Report* newsletters.

##### Web Site

The SeaTac Police Services' web site was updated and now provides current information to the community. A great deal of crime prevention material is available throughout the site, additional crime information and many interesting links can all be found through the Police homepage. Citizens can access crime statistics and information, sex offender searches, homeland security information, and a great deal of helpful information about your police services. Here is the Police homepage: [www.ci.seatac.wa.us/departments/policehomepage.htm](http://www.ci.seatac.wa.us/departments/policehomepage.htm)

##### Community Meetings

SeaTac Police Services staff presented crime prevention and other police related matters to businesses, community groups, apartment managers, homeowners, and a variety of organizations. Whenever sex offenders moved into a neighborhood, appropriate information and community notification meetings were held to inform a community.

##### Education

SeaTac Police Officers provided training to the community throughout the year. A School Resource Officer taught a variety of classes to students in SeaTac schools. He talked about personal safety, traffic safety, and conflict resolution as well as informational drug/alcohol prevention efforts. Our Crime Prevention and Community Service Officers provided education to people and groups that helped people avoid being crime victims.

##### Citizens' Academy

SeaTac co-sponsored two Citizen Academy sessions in 2004. This thirteen-week course is designed to educate citizens about the operations, functions, and realities of police work. It also provides an opportunity for citizens to get to know each other and learn about contributing back to their own neighborhood or community. More information about the next session is available by calling Community Service Officer Kruger at 206-973-4900.

**Goal: Provide High-quality, Cost-effective, and Accountable Services to the City of SeaTac, WA**

The goal "to provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services" is a goal any service industry might strive for. It reflects a concern for the appropriate and effective use of community resources. Efforts to support this goal are made in partnership with elected officials and police administrators, taking into consideration problem areas, community concerns for quality of life and resources available.

The objectives chosen to provide direction for SeaTac's police department in support of this goal are:

- provide responsive services to citizens, and
- provide cost-effective services to citizens.

The measures on the following pages report the efforts and accomplishments of SeaTac's police department using traditional responsiveness measures (such as response times and complaints). Additionally, cost information is shown in ratios of cost by the population, by available revenue, by staffing and by volume of work.

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Objective: Provide Responsive Services to Citizens

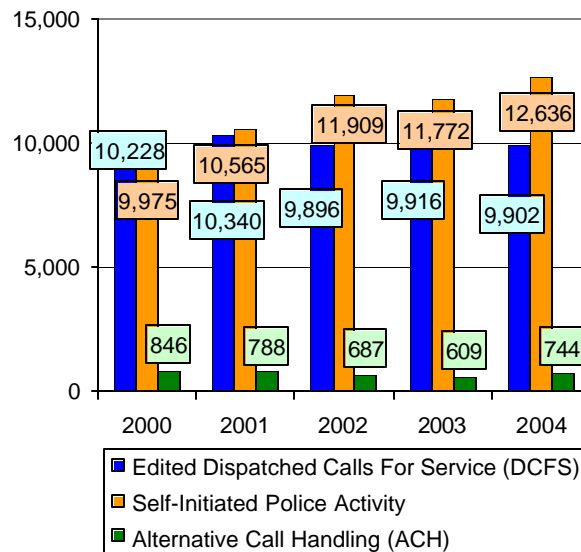
#### Response to Calls

##### Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) Reports

Police engage in a variety of activities in a workday. Primarily police activity is captured in the number of “calls” responded to during a day. A “call” may be an incident called in by a citizen to the 9-1-1 center or a call may be “self initiated” by the officer responding to a crime they’ve witnessed or to chronic problems in a neighborhood (see Problem Solving Projects on pages 15-17). In addition to the calls responded to by officers, the Alternative Call Handling (ACH) program allows 9-1-1 center operators to take certain police reports over the phone in order to allow police officers more time to respond to citizens who need an officer present at the location of their incident.

Below are the number of Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS), Self-initiated Police Activities and Alternative Call Handling (ACH) incidents reported for the past five years.

**Police Calls**



# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Response Times to High Priority Calls

#### Response Times to High Priority Calls

##### **Call Priorities and Response Times**

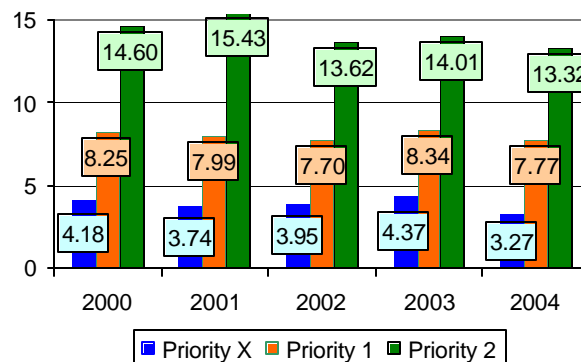
When calls for police assistance are received by the Communications (9-1-1) Center, they are entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and given a “priority” based on the criteria described below. If the call receiver is in doubt as to the appropriate priority, the call is assigned the higher of the two priority designators in question.

“**Priority X**” designates critical dispatches, those incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. It is used for felony crimes in-progress where the possibility of confrontation between a victim and suspect exists. Examples include: shootings, stabbings, robberies or burglaries.

“**Priority 1**” designates immediate dispatches; those calls that require immediate police action. Examples include: silent alarms, injury traffic accidents, in-progress crimes or crimes so recent that the suspect may still be in the immediate area.

“**Priority 2**” designates prompt dispatches; those calls that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples include: verbal disturbances and blocking traffic accidents.

**Average Response Times\* to High  
Priority Calls in Minutes**



\* The 9-1-1 Center for the City of SeaTac Police measures response times from the time a citizen's phone call is received to the time an officer arrives at the location of the incident.

# City of SeaTac Police

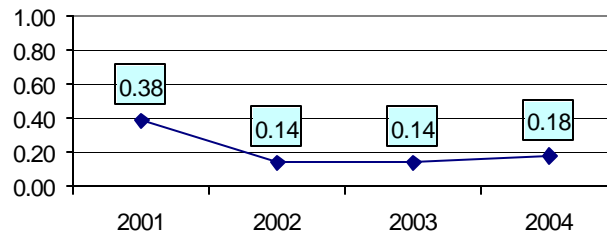
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

#### Complaints by Citizens Against Officers

#### Complaints per 1,000 Police Contacts

Comparable data unavailable prior to 2001\*



	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Number of Complaints</b>	7	3	3	4
<b>Number of Police Contacts</b> (Edited DCFS & Self-initiated Police Contacts)	21,110	21,805	21,688	22,538

# City of SeaTac Police

## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### Objective: Provide Cost-effective Services to Citizens

#### Costs of Services

The City of SeaTac contracts with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) for police services. Among other benefits, contracting for services from a larger law enforcement agency allows for cost savings through "economies of scale." Specific economies of scale provided through the contract with KCSO include:

- Existing Mutual Aid Agreements with other law enforcement agencies in Washington State,
- A large pool of officers if back-up help is necessary,
- Coverage if your officers are away,
- Expertise of specialized units to assist officers,
- More experienced officers to select from for staffing, and
- Costs shared throughout the department keeping city costs down.

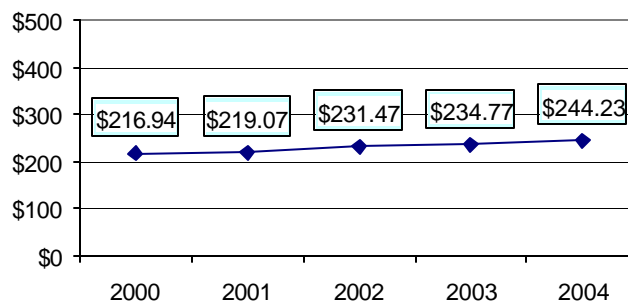
Costs for police services vary depending on a city's resources and the level and type of police services the community wants. The dollar amounts and staffing levels shown below are taken from the contracts for police services (billed financial exhibits) for the years indicated. The City of SeaTac may have had additional funds or expenditures for special projects or programs as part of the city's law enforcement budget which are **not** reflected in this report.

The following are four ways of putting the cost-to-services picture together for the City of SeaTac. (NOTE: Dollar amounts shown have **not** been adjusted for inflation.)

#### Cost per Capita

Cost Per Capita shows the contract cost for police services divided by SeaTac's population (for example: year 2004 contract cost (\$6,137,441) divided by year 2004 population (25,130) = \$244.23).

#### Cost Per Capita





# City of SeaTac Police

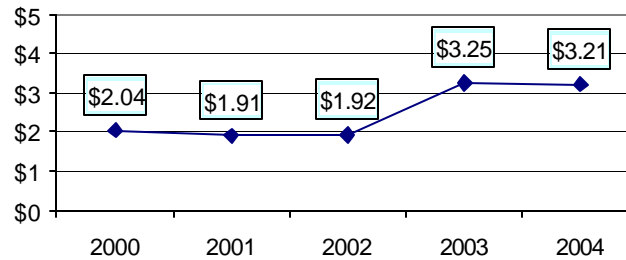
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### **Costs of Services, continued**

#### Cost per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value shows SeaTac's contract cost in relationship to the property values (a.k.a. primary revenue source) of SeaTac.

#### **Cost Per \$1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value**



#### Commissioned Officers per 1,000 Residents

Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents shows how many commissioned police officers are employed by SeaTac for every 1,000 residents. This number includes commissioned officers who work in supervisory or other non-patrol related positions as well as any special services officers who work part-time for the city, but does not include professional (i.e. non-police) support staff.

#### **Commissioned Officers Per 1,000 Residents**



# City of SeaTac Police

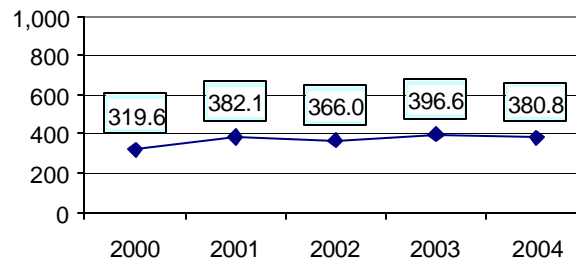
## *Service Efforts and Accomplishments: 2004*

### **Costs of Services, continued**

#### **Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) per Patrol Officer**

Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) Per Patrol Officer gives a picture of the average number of dispatched calls one patrol officer responds to within a year. This number only uses dispatched calls SeaTac pays for and does not include the number of responses an officer initiates (such as witnessing and responding to traffic violations). Also, the numbers below are **patrol only** and exclude non-patrol commissioned officers (such as supervisors or special duty officers/detectives).

#### **Edited Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) Per Patrol Officer**



## Glossary

Adult Arrests: An arrest is counted every time an adult is cited for a criminal offense or is booked. More specifically:

1. It includes all adult bookings, plus
2. All adult citations that are classified as criminal non-traffic.
3. When an adult is both cited and booked, it is counted only once.

CAD: See "Computer Aided Dispatch" below.

Cases Cleared/Clearance: This refers to the solving of an offense by arrest or, in some circumstances, by exceptional means (e.g., the suspect died, is imprisoned on another charge, victim refuses to testify, etc.).

Cleared by Arrest: This is a case that is closed by identifying at least one suspect and charges against that suspect(s) are recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. Although called "cleared by *arrest*" this closure does not require physical booking into a jail or juvenile detention facility. It also does not require the charging of all suspects if/when there are multiple suspects involved in a crime. This category includes criminal citations into district and municipal courts for misdemeanors, felony filings into Superior Court, and all filings into Juvenile Court.

Other clearance codes:

1. "Cleared Exceptional" refers to a case in which a crime and a suspect involved in the crime have both been confirmed but due to circumstances outside the control of law enforcement, charges are not being recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney. (One example of this is when the suspect is already being charged for the crime by another police jurisdiction.)
2. "Cleared Unfounded" refers to a case in which it is discovered that the reported incident was either not true or was not a crime.
3. "Cleared Administrative" refers to an incident found to be non-criminal in nature, but which requires some police action to close the incident (e.g., handling of lost and found property).
4. "Cleared Inactive" refers to cases in which all investigative leads have been exhausted (or none existed) and the case cannot be closed by any other clearance classifications.

Citation: Often called a "ticket," a citation is a written document issued to a citizen who commits a crime or violates a law. The citation describes the crime and/or the law that has been violated and identifies the punishment that has been standardized by the court system (i.e., the standardized monetary amounts payable for traffic violations). While citations prescribe a penalty for a crime, they may be challenged through the court system. They usually include instructions for the cited citizen to appeal the citation.

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD): A computerized communication system used by emergency response agencies for dispatching and tracking calls for emergency assistance.

Domestic Violence: Domestic violence is a subcategory of other crimes. Virtually any crime can be sub-classified as domestic violence. In the State of Washington, domestic violence is defined as a crime of violence against the person or property of a spouse, former spouse, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current

roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS): Dispatched calls for service are calls received in the Communications Center and to which one or more patrol cars are dispatched. For information about "Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS)" see the Data Sources section of this report.

Felony: Felony crimes are more serious in terms of either harm or loss to persons or property than misdemeanors, and usually are punished by more restrictive methods than citations. Felonies have subclasses (A, B and C) that are based on the extent of harm to a person or the dollar value of loss or damage to property.

Identifier Codes for Priority of Dispatched Police Calls: The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems used by 9-1-1 Centers use a system of codes to identify the types of calls to which police are being dispatched. Along with categorizing the type of incident the codes also assign the call a priority level based on the urgency required for the police response. The following are the priority levels used by the Communications (9-1-1) Center for the various types of police calls:

- Priority 0 (9-1-1 Dispatch): This code is used when a dispatcher sends a police unit to an incident based on the location, name and phone number information automatically generated by the 9-1-1 CAD system based on the origin of the call. This may be necessary when a caller is unable (for whatever reasons) to give the information or gives minimal information before the call is somehow terminated. Open phone lines and disconnected lines to which a call-receiver is unable to re-contact the caller are also examples of Priority 0 calls.
- Priority X (Critical Dispatch): This code is used for incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. Examples are felony crimes in progress, "help the officer" situations, shootings, stabbings, in-progress robberies and in-progress burglaries where the possibility of a confrontation between a victim and a suspect exists.
- Priority 1 (Immediate Dispatch): This code is used for incidents requiring immediate police action. Examples are silent alarms at banks or businesses, silent residential alarms, injury accidents, major disturbances with weapons involved, in-progress burglaries of unoccupied structures, and other types of crimes in-progress (or which have just occurred) where a suspect may still be in the immediate area.
- Priority 2 (Prompt Dispatch): This code is used for events that involve situations that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples are verbal disturbances, blocking accidents, and incidents of shoplifters in custody who are not causing a problem.
- Priority 3 (Routine Dispatch): This code is used for low priority incidents in which time is not the critical factor in the proper handling of the call. Examples are burglaries or larcenies that are not in progress, "cold" vehicle thefts and abandoned vehicle calls.
- Priority 4 (Dispatch as available): This code is used for special circumstances or "seasonal" calls. Examples are reports of snowball throwing during winter months or firecracker complaints around July 4th.

Misdemeanor: Crimes that inflict harm or loss but to a lesser extent than a felony (e.g., assault fourth degree or simple assault). Misdemeanors usually are punished through

monetary payment via a citation and/or other restrictions (such as restraining orders or no trespass orders).

Part I Crimes: This is a category of crimes established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It includes criminal homicide (which includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter; but excludes deaths by negligence, attempts to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicide, and traffic fatalities), forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part I Crimes Against Persons: These crimes are also referred to as "violent crimes." They consist of criminal homicide (as defined above), forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Part I Crimes Against Property: These are burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part II Crimes: This is a category of crimes consisting of all other crimes not included in the Part I Crimes category. Part II crimes vary due to differences in local laws, but typically include one or more of the following crimes: all other assaults (simple), forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property (buying, receiving and/or possessing), vandalism, weapons (carrying, possessing, etc.), prostitution and commercialized vice, sex offenses (including statutory rape, indecent exposure, etc. but excluding forcible rape, prostitution and commercialized vice), drug violations, gambling, offenses against families and children, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, liquor violations, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and others.

## Data Sources

The data compiled in this report was collected from the following sources and, as such, is subject to the data standards and limitations of the source agency:

- City of SeaTac Police (information regarding: crime prevention activities, problem solving projects and public communication and education efforts)
- Edited Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS) are the incidents that originate with a phone call to the 9-1-1 Center requesting a police response (either emergency or non-emergency). The totals shown in this report are limited to the DCFS calls that the city is charged for as part of their contract. Actual DCFS counts may be slightly (usually less than 5%) higher. This data is reported via the King County Sheriff's Office Communications Center Section, Research, Planning and Information Services Unit and Contracting Unit.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) annual statistical report *Crime in the United States: 2003*
- Washington State Office of Financial Management (demographic information)
- King County Sheriff's Office:
  - Annual Statistical Reports
  - Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system reports
  - Internal Investigations Unit statistical reports
  - Interlocal Agreements - Exhibit Bs (contract cost and staffing information)
- King County Tax Assessor's Office (real property values)
- Washington State Courts, Courts of Limited Jurisdiction annual caseload reports (traffic citation information); available on the Internet at: [www.courts.wa.gov/caseload](http://www.courts.wa.gov/caseload)

## Improved Data

One of the functions of a Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report is to highlight data collection and reporting methods that may need modification. Since the first annual report was published in 2000, the research and publishing staff have identified several ways to improve the data presented in these reports. Many improvements were implemented since that time and therefore data may differ somewhat in subsequent reports.